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E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [EG](#) [IZ](#)
SUBJECT: IRAQ: EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT AND PRIME MINISTER
CONGRATULATE IRAQIS ON FORMATION OF NEW GOVERNMENT

REF: CAIRO 3029 (NOTAL)

Sensitive but unclassified. Please handle accordingly.

¶1. (U) In addition to a public statement made by Foreign Minister Ahmed Aboul Gheit (reftel) that welcomed the formation of a new government in Baghdad, President Mubarak sent congratulatory telegrams to both new Iraqi Prime Minister, Nour El Maliki, and Iraqi President Jalal Talabani. According to Egyptian state media, Mubarak asserted in his May 25 messages that the formation of the new government was a "great achievement along the road of Iraq's ongoing political process." Mubarak reportedly expressed his hope that additional achievements would be forthcoming "in the service of Iraq's national interests." Prime Minister Nazif wrote to PM Maliki in his May 26 message that Egypt wished for the Iraqi government and people "prosperity, security, and stability."

¶2. (SBU) Comment: During a recent conversation on other topics with the Ambassador, Presidential Spokesman and Senior Advisor Soliman Awad made a point of mentioning Mubarak's messages to the Iraqi government, stressing that Egypt would look to establish working ties and strengthened relations with the new leadership in Baghdad. The messages have also been widely reported in the Egyptian media. End comment.
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